

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-5, 9-15, 17-18, 20-23, and 25 are pending in this Application, Claims 15, 20, 21 and 23 having been amended. Support for amended Claims 15, 20, 21 and 23 can be found, for example, in the original claims, drawings, and specification as originally filed.¹ Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 20 and 21 were objected to due to informalities; and Claims 1, 3-5, 9-15, 17, 18, 20-23, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mehra (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0140115).

Claims 12 and 13 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

In response to the objection to Claims 20 and 21, Applicant has amended these claims to correct the noted informality. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

In response to the rejection of Claims 1, 3-5, 9-15, 17, 18, 20-23, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mehra, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection and traverses the rejection as discussed next.

Independent Claim 1 is directed to, *inter alia*,

... a request-related information activation unit configured to activate a root document folder within the hierarchical organization of information, the root document folder corresponding to the document path of the request-related information item of the request, in the user profile, upon determination that the root document folder is not active in the user profile....

Independent Claims 14 and 25 recite similar features as Claim 1. Therefore the arguments presented below with respect to Claim 1 are also applicable to Claims 14 and 25.

¹ See original Claims 15, 20, 21 and 23.

Mehra describes that virtual directories provide a mechanism for automatically changing the root folder from the default Web application root document folder to a virtual directory or folder, in response to a request.² Further, Mehra describes that, if a matching virtual directory is found in the configuration file, then the system determines the resource location using the virtual directory, and if the virtual directory fails or terminates, then the system returns a null or “not found” message unless the virtual directory has been installed.³

However, Mehra fails to teach or suggest an “activation unit configured to activate a root document folder within the hierarchical organization of information, the root document folder corresponding to the document path of the request-related information item of the request, in the user profile, upon determination that the root document folder is not active in the user folder” as recited in Applicants’ Claim 1.

In Mehra, instead of providing copies of a required resource, the system checks a URL request against a previously configured XML configuration file 125 to see if a matching pattern exists, and determines whether the resource is stored in the virtual directory 126. If the virtual directory indicates a mapped docroot, then the system allows concurrent synchronized access to that shared resource 128.⁴ Thus, in Mehra, the system merely provides a mechanism for automatically changing the root folder from the default web application root document folder to a virtual directory or folder in response to certain http/URL requests. In Applicants’ Claim 1, a root document folder is ***activated within the hierarchical information***, the root document folder corresponding to the document path of the request-related information item of the request, in the user profile, ***upon determination that the root document folder is not active in the user folder***. In Mehra, only the source of the information is controlled. A root document folder is not activated and positioned within a hierarchy of information.

² See Mehra at paragraph [0019].

³ See Mehra at paragraph [0025].

⁴ See Mehra at paragraph [0023].

Further, Mehra does not teach or suggest *activating* a root document folder within the hierarchical organization of information in the user profile, *when the root document folder is not active in the user folder* as in Applicant's Claim 1.

The Official Action at page 3 acknowledges that Mehra "fails to explicitly state 'upon determination that the root document folder is not active in the user profile.'" However, the Official Action contends that "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the administrator methods of Mehra and utilized the well-known administrator methods to determine inactive root document folders based upon prior user requests and change the default docroot for certain requests which would allow control over specific content stored in virtual directories and ultimately presented to a specific user."⁵ However, there is no evidence of a motivation to modify the teachings from the reference so as to arrive at Applicant's claimed inventions. The position that these teachings *could* be modified to arrive at the claimed inventions would be insufficient to establish a prima facie case of obviousness.⁶ Further, the Supreme Court in *KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, stated that the analysis supporting a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 should be made explicit. The court quoting *in re Kahn*⁷ stated that "[R]ejections on obviousness cannot be sustained by mere conclusory statements; instead there must be some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness."

An advantageous feature of Applicant's invention is that the root node of the cabinet in which the folders under that cabinet are retrieved once is automatically displayed in the Web page, and the user can perform the retrieval operation to the cabinet concerned easily.

⁵ See page 4 of the outstanding Office Action.

⁶ See MPEP 2143.01 stating that the "fact that references can be combined or modified is not sufficient to establish *prima facie* obviousness."

⁷ 441 F.3d 977, 988 (Fed. Cir. 2006).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 (and all claims depending thereon) patentably distinguishes over Mehra.

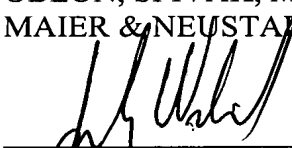
Independent Claims 15 and 23 recite "causing the external device to perform processing related to a processing request through a communication device, and activating a root document folder within the hierarchical organization of information, the root document folder corresponding to the document path of the request-related information item of the request, in the user profile, upon determination that the root document folder is not active in the user profile." Accordingly, Claims 15 and 23 (and all claims depending thereon) are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, and in light of the above discussion, the pending claims as presented herewith are believed to be in condition for formal allowance, and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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